THE VOLUNTARY DISSEMINATION OF PERFORMANCE INFORMATION BY HEALTH CARE ORGANIZATIONS

Abstract

This paper examines the factors that influence the voluntary dissemination of performance information by health care organizations. A model of information dissemination is developed and tested using data on Health Maintenance Organizations. The empirical findings suggest that health care organizations disseminate information on their performance because there are collective-good benefits resulting from dissemination, particularly when the product or organizational innovation is unfamiliar to some purchasers. The findings also suggest that the competitive structure of the local health care market influences the dissemination decision, with health care organizations more likely to disseminate information about their performance in relatively competitive markets.

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